

THIRTY DOLLARS
PER ANNUM.

... ..

Today's
Advertisements.VICTORIA CHAPTER,
No. 525, E.C.AN EMERGENCY CONVOCACTION of the
above CHAPTER will be held in the
FREMASON'S HALL, ZETLAND STREET, THIS
EVENING, the 27th instant, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock
precisely. Visiting Companions are cordially
invited to attend.
Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [651]THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.Lessee & Manager.....Mr. SAVILE SMITH.
Stage Manager.....Mr. W. G. CAREY.MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE AND
COMPANY
In a SELECTION of the LATEST PLAYS OF
THE DAY.TO-NIGHT
MONDAY—May 27th—MONDAY,
THE DRAMATIC EVENT OF THE SEASON,
Under the Distinguished Patronage and
in thePresence of
H.E. Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.,
H.E. General BLACK, C.B.and
Commodore BOYES, R.N.
Farewell Appearance and Benefit to
MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE,
VICTORIAN SARDON'S SENSATIONAL PLAY,
"THEODORA."
(As played by Miss HAWTHORNE for over 1,000
nights in England.)Prices as Usual. Soldiers and Sailors in
Uniform half-price to Back Seats only. Doors
open at 8.30 P.M., commence at 9 o'clock.
A Special Tram will run to the Peak after the
Performances.
Box Office at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH'S.
Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [652]

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

THE Company's Steamship

"KARLSRUHE,"

carrying the German Mail for EUROPE, &c.,
will leave this port TO-MORROW MORNING,
the 28th instant, at 6 A.M.MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [656]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAILONG,"

Captain Hall, will be despatched for the above
Ports TO-MORROW, the 28th instant, at Day
light.For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS, LAURIE & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [654]

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA
(FLORENCE & RUBATTONI UNITED COMPANY).STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG AND BOMBAY,
having connection with Company's Mail Steamers
to ADEN, SUET, PORT SAID, MESSINA,
NAPLES (L'UGHORN), and GENOA; and
all other MEDITERRANEAN, ADRIATIC,
LEVANTINE, and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS
up to CALAO. Taking Cargo at through
rates to PERMAN GULF, BAGDAD,
VENICE and TRIESTE.

THE Steamship.

"DISAGNO,"

E. Barabino, Master, will be despatched at above
on SATURDAY, the 26th June, at Noon.
At BOMBAY the Steamers are discharging in
VICTORIA DOCK.For Further Particulars regarding Freight and
Passage, apply toCARLOWITZ & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [655]

ZETLAND LODGE,

No. 525, E.C.

AN EMERGENCY MEETING of the above
LODGE will be held in the FREMASON'S
HALL, Zetland Street, on WEDNESDAY, the
30th inst., at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting
Brethren are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [655]

TO LET.

DWELLING HOUSES—

"HIGHCLERE," at MAGAZINE GAP.
No. 2 CHINESE ROAD.
HOUSES RIFON TERRACE.
DES VUEX VILLAS at THE PEAK.
FLOORS in BLUE BUILDINGS.

GODOWNS—

No. 7A, PRAYA CENTRAL.

Apply to
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT
& AGENCY CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 27th May, 1895. [657]

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK &
COMPANY, LIMITED,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are
made under the constant supervision of a daily
qualified English Chemist and will bear com-
parison with the best English Manufactures.Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MESSIES and
other Large Consumers.Any complaints should be addressed to the
Manager.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1895. [657]

Intimations.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.
ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

ALL these are Selected by our London
House, bought direct at first hand,
imported in Wood and Bottled by ourselves,
thus saving all intermediate profits and enabling
us to supply the best growths at moderate
prices.PRICE LISTS, WITH FULL DETAILS, TO BE HAD
ON APPLICATION.PORT—After removal should be rested a
month before use. When required for
drinking at once it should be ordered to be
decanted at the Dispensary before being
sent out.SHERRY—Excellent dinner and after dinner
Wines, of very superior vintage. All are
true Xeres Wines.CLARET—Our Claret, including the lowest
priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine
product of the juice of the grape and are not
artificially made from raisins and currents,
as is generally the case with Cheap Wines.BRANDY—All our Brandy is guaranteed to
be pure Cognac, the difference in price
being merely a question of age and vintage.WHISKY—All our Whisky is of excellent
quality and of greater age than most brands
in the market. The Scotch Whisky marked
"E" is universally popular and is pro-
nounced by the best local connoisseurs to be
superior to any other brand in the
Hongkong Market.We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to
be genuine when bought direct from us in the
Colony or from our authorised Agents at the
Coast Ports.A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, 9th January, 1895.

DEATHS.

On the 21st April, at Southern, JANE ELIZ-
ABETH, wife of Admiral of the Fleet the Hon. Sir
Henry K. P. J. C. B., aged 74.
At 116-D, Settlement, Yokohama, on May
19th, B. BRAKE, late Chief Officer in the
Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Service, aged 45 years.
At Tokyo, on 15th May, HERMANN IVERSEN,
Consul for the Netherlands, Sweden, and
Norway in Nagasaki.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, MONDAY, MAY 27, 1895.

THE CRISIS IN FORMOSA.

The latest news from Formosa is serious.
It means a considerable prolongation of
the present state of uneasiness and uncer-
tainty in the East and the multiplication of
the many possible causes that already
exist tending to embroil the Western
Powers with each other and with Japan.
Herein lies the main danger. Of course,
if no European Power interferes, Japan
will make short work of the "Republic of
Formosa." The country has been formally
ceded to her by treaty. The Chinese
Government has by public proclamation
withdrawn its officials. A high official
(Li CHAI-FONG) is now on his way from
Peking to Formosa to formally hand over
the island to the Japanese, and a Japanese
Viceroy (Viscount KOBAYAMA) will shortly
arrive there to take possession. As soon
as that ceremony is concluded every
Chinese man under arms in Formosa will be
a rebel.The Japanese fleet, with the Pescadores
as a point d'appui, will completely blockade
the island and shut out all possibility of help
from outside. Judging from the prudence
and caution they displayed from the
beginning to the end of the late war, the
Japanese Government will not make the
mistake of despising the enemy, but will
send an ample force in the first instance
to render all hope of successful opposition
absolutely futile. The fifty thousand
Chinese soldiers in Formosa are not more
numerous, neither are they better armed,
better drilled, or better officered than
those encountered by the Mikado's sea-
soned warriors elsewhere. The Chinese
resident in the island may be, and probably
is, more active, more intelligent, more
patriotic than Chinese who have never
travelled beyond their native villages or the
prefectural city, but we cannot believe that
they have acquired the arts of government
that they are more capable administrators
than are the general run of Cantonese. If
no European Power interferes, six months,
at the outside, will see an end of the new
Republic and a permanent and progres-
sive Japanese government from one end
of Formosa to the other. Any attempted
interference on the part of China,
unassisted by Western Powers, will be
worse than useless.But with even one Western Power
encouraging China and the Chinese inside
and outside of the island protesting against
and trying to hamper the victors, it is
impossible to foresee what turn things
may take. Russia and Germany, so far,
appear to claim no voice in the disposal
of Formosa. France and Spain appear to
be protesting, and France would appear,
from the latest reports, to contemplate
active interference. A considerable
portion of her fleet is there, off the
coast. It is said, and she has landedmen, and is probably encouraging the
Chinese in the island to declare their
independence, form themselves into a
Republic and offer determined resistance to
the forces of the Mikado. If France and
Spain decided to recognize the new
Republic—our Gallic neighbours have a
fancy for republics and republican forms
of Government—the task of the Japanese in
possessing themselves of the island would
become more difficult and take much
longer than would otherwise be the case.
It is almost useless to speculate on what
will happen; what one least expects or
dreams of usually takes place. We have
one piece of advice to tender to the
Japanese if they would avoid trouble, and
that is to put 100,000 men in the field, in
Formosa, at once and effectually suppress
all opposition at the earliest possible
moment, so as to prevent the threatened
resistance from taking form and consistency
and becoming worthy of recognition by
other nations. They acted with great
care and deliberation during the war, they
must now act with the greatest promptitude
and put forth their utmost force. Every
day's delay in taking possession of her new
territory and putting down all
organised opposition will tell heavily
against Japan in the end.Particular interests may suffer from the
transfer of Formosa to Japan, as, for
example, the sugar trade, but English
trade and commerce will gain largely in
the long run from the settlement of the
island by the active and business-like
Japanese and through the development by
them of its vast and varied resources.We must await further news before the
precise bearing of the joint demand on the
Government of the Mikado for a precise
statement of indemnity claimed from the
Chinese for the retrocession of the
Liaotung peninsula becomes clear. We
were under the impression that as between
China and Japan the amount was agreed on,
and although we surmise much, we do
not see, with anything like clearness, what
specific object the allied Powers have in
putting the question, unless they propose
to find the money and take as security the
Chinese Customs, thus freeing China from
all further claims on the part of Japan
and thereby remove, if possible, any excuse
for further interference by Japan in China.The Reuter's telegram in which it
was stated that the French papers
complained that France was the dupe
of Russia, unless, in return for
French support in the Far East France
was to have Russian support in the
settlement, to her liking, of the Egyptian
question *vis-à-vis* Great Britain, turns out
to have been absolutely correct. Egypt,
not Formosa, was the *quid pro quo* Russia
was enabled to claim for being backed by
France in her very *disinterested* objections to
Japan holding the seaboard of Manchuria.
It seems hardly likely that the greatly
vaunted *entente cordiale*, supposed to have
been completely established between
Russia and England during the obsequies
of the late Czar, was either to count for
much or to last very long. And it is, in
fact, extremely doubtful whether the
much-talked-of *entente* ever existed except
in the elastic imaginations of blatant and
mischievous optimists.

THE REBELLION IN FORMOSA.

The *China Mail* in its issue of Saturday,
dealing with the Formosa question, calls
attention, in common with the *China Gazette*
(Shanghai), to the possibility that the
dishonesty and duplicity of the Chinese
Government may be responsible for the
present anarchical state of affairs in the
"Beautiful Isle;" and conjectures that
the leaders of the revolutionary party may
be acting under orders or on advice given
them from Peking during the recent visit
there of the islanders' delegates to protest
against this cession. Our contemporary
calls attention to the fact that soldiers, arms,
money and ammunition have been sent
from Canton to Formosa since the terms
of the Treaty have been made known,
and expresses the opinion, in which
we fully concur, that if it should prove
to be the case that the Peking
Government is covertly or deliberately
encouraging this movement it can expect
no consideration or mercy from Japan,
but must be prepared for a renewal
of the war, for fresh defeats and fresh
exactions. On the other hand there is the
possibility that the declaration of Formo-
sa independence and of the establishment
of a republican form of government may
be the genuine outcome of the revolu-
tionary spirit that has spread so rapidly
through South China since the weakness
of the Central Government became so
marked. The *China Mail* points out that the
movement in Formosa is too late and must
lead to disaster, as the insurgents will now
have Japan, not China, to settle with, but
that there is still hope for any agitation
set on foot in Kwangtung, Kwangsi, or
Fukien for a change of Government or
for radical reforms in the present faulty
system of administration.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

LATEST BETTING ON THE DERBY.

Reconquer	5 to 1 against
Leveno	5 to 1 against
Solaro	9 to 1 "
Lo Var	9 to 1 "
Sir Visto	10 to 1 "
Owl	10 to 1 "
Kikukon	12 to 1 "
Slower	16 to 1 "
Coon (Cowen)	16 to 1 "
Lombard	20 to 1 "

THE MONETARY QUESTION.
The metropolitan members of the House of
Commons are forming a Committee to combat
the Bi-metallic League.BIRTHDAY HONOURS.
Mr. N. R. O'Connor, British Minister at Peking,
has received the order of C. B. (K.C.B.)
Judge N. J. Hansen of Shanghai has been
knighted.

EXETER HALL DEFEATED.

Sir Joseph Pease's resolution against the
cancellation of, and the revenue from opium, has
been rejected by 176 against 59.BYE ELECTION.
The Right Hon. H. H. Ritchie has been
elected for Croydon unopposed, replacing the
Hon. Sidney Herbert, who has succeeded to the
peerage.(Special to N. C. Daily News.)
ANOTHER PROTEST!
TIENTSIN, May 16th.France, Germany, and Russia object to all
financial schemes of China conferring special
rights on any nationality. This protest will
frustrate the proposed proposals of an American
syndicate for financing the indemnity to be paid
Japan, security for which was to be a conces-
sion for the construction of railways, etc.FAMINE IN CHIHLI PROVINCE.
There is severe distress and famine in northern
Chihli.

FORMOSA.

TIENTSIN, May 22nd.
Mr. Foster has left here to join Li Chin-fong
on his special mission to Formosa, to hand the
island over to the Japanese.(From Japanese Papers.)
FORMOSA AFFAIRS.

(Headquarters) KYOTO, May 15th.

Admiral Kobayama, Governor-General of
Formosa, and staff have decided to leave here for
Ujima on the 17th inst., whence they shortly
start for Formosa.
Mr. Minato, Chief of the Administrative
Office in Formosa, attended by over thirty
officials left here for Hiroshima yesterday.
Messrs. Furusho Yoshikado, Maki Bokushin,
Chijiwa (police inspector), Goto (ex-Chief of
Yamaguchi Police), Takeshita (police inspector),
and twenty-four persons have been commissioned
at Headquarters to proceed to Formosa.

SAKANO, May 15th.

With a view to laying a submarine cable
between Japan and Formosa the Government has
ordered two cable ships from England.

KYOTO, May 15th.

With a view to propagating the Shin sect
(Buddhism) in Formosa, the East and West
Hougan Temples have decided to establish
branches in that island, and deputies will shortly
leave for that purpose. A certain Mr. Fujiwara
left here to-day for the south to make preliminary
arrangements.

May 16th.

The Government proposes to lay a submarine
cable between Formosa and Osmi, via Okinawa,
at an estimated cost of *yen* 3,700,000.

ADMIRAL ARICHI.

KYOTO, May 12th.

Vice-Admiral Arichi has been appointed
Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Squadron.

SHIPWRECK.

HIROSHIMA, May 14th.

The crew of the *Ujima Maru* report that their
vessel sank off Pihwa, but no official report has
yet been received about the wreck.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

KYOTO, May 14th.

Russia intimated to the Japanese Govern-
ment yesterday that she is willing to revise the
Treaty now existing between the two countries.

THE "CHEN-YUEN."

May 15th.

The external repairs of the *Chen-yuen* have
been completed at Port Arthur and she will be
brought to Japan at the end of the current month.

LIAOTUNG PENINSULA.

KYOTO, May 14th.

It is stated that the Government will not
allow China to station soldiers in the Liaotung
peninsula and the independence of Korea has
been thoroughly established, and that a Brigade
of Japanese soldiers will remain in the peninsula
until the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty
and the payment of the indemnity is completed.
An annual sum of 500,000 taels will be demanded
of China, as in the case of Wei-hai-wai, to defray
the expenses of the Japanese garrison.The First, Third, Fifth, and a Brigade of the
Sixth Army Divisions will return home, while
the Second and Fourth Army Divisions will
remain as garrisons in the Liaotung peninsula,
and a Brigade of the Sixth Army Division on
Liaotung Island.

HIROSHIMA, May 14th.

It is stated that H. H. Prince Komatsu and
staff will leave Port Arthur to-morrow, and will
call here en route to Tokyo.(From *La Progres de Saigon*.)
LORD ROSEBERY.

PARIS, May 21st.

The resignation of Lord Rosebery is certain,
and the dissolution of the House of Commons
will, of course, follow.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

It is rumored in town, on the highest
personal authority, that General Digby Barker
has been created a Knight Commander of the
Order of the Bath, and that Mr. F. H. May
has been made a Companion of the Order of St.
Michael and St. George.Mr. LOWTHER, Secretary of the British Legation,
has been appointed British *Chargé d'Affaires*
in Tokyo.Major and Mrs. von Hanneken arrived here
from Shanghai yesterday morning by the
Kaurahke.The F. & M. mail liner *Ernest Simons* arrived
here at 6.30 last night and the mail was
delivered at 9 p.m.We are still obliged to hold over a mass of
interesting matter owing to extreme pressure on
our news columns.The Chinese Government, according to the
Shanghai Mercury of the 18th, appeared to
Japan for further extension of time regarding
the cession of Formosa pending certain propo-
sitions she desired to make. The Japanese
Minister for Foreign Affairs promptly refused,
stating that the exchange of Ratifications had
taken place and that the Treaty was definite,
and no alterations of its contents could be
permitted.Almost every civilized country will be repre-
sented at the International Geographical Con-
gress, to be held in London this summer. Official
delegates will be sent by France, Austria,
Hungary, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Spain,
Portugal, the United States, Japan, and Turkey.
General Assenkov and Baron Toll will be two
of the delegates representing Russia, and Pro-
fessor Vambery and Prince Roland Bonaparte
will be among those who will represent the
Hungarian and Paris Geographical Societies
respectively.THE *Etcher* Roy murder case stands further
remanded till the 3rd proximo.TO-MORROW being the Chinese Mid-Summer
Festival China-town will be *en fête* morning,
noon and night.The Yokohama Custom authorities propose to
reduce the rates at the pier to *sen* 14 per ton for
every twenty-four hours.The Spanish Colonial Ministry has in contem-
plation the extension of its telegraphic cable
system to Visayas and Mindanao.Mr. HOWE, who was captured by the Japanese
at Wei-hai-wai, has been released by the Japa-
nese and was at Shanghai on the 21st inst.Most of the extra foreign guards who were sent
up to Tientsin last autumn for the protection of
the Legations at Peking have left the northern
port.An Emergency Convocation of Victoria Chapter
No. 525, E.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall,
Zetland Street, this evening, at 8.30 for 9 o'clock
precisely. Visiting companions are cordially
invited.The *Mercury* bears that Herr von Brandt has
not been confirmed in his post of Under-Secretary
for Foreign Affairs to the German Imperial
Government.DETROIVE Sergeant Melver had eight Head
Coolies "up" this morning for failing to register
their evil-smelling "dens." They were fined
one Mexican each.FOR having 50 taels of illicit opium in their
possession on board the steamer *Fushun* yester-
day two Chinese mandarins were fined \$50 each
at the Magistracy to-day.The Lords of the Admiralty have directed the
Backhouse, the corvette in which the sons of the
Prince of Wales took their voyage round the
world, to be placed in the list of ships for sale.INSPECTOR QUINCY charged two Chinamen at
the Police Court to-day for surreptitiously
obtaining a passage from Canton to Hongkong
in the fast and powerful "night boat" *Fathian*.
A fine of \$4 each was imposed, or in default the
usual alternative.TWENTY-ONE days' imprisonment each was the
dose of physic administered by Mr. Wedehouse
at the Police Court this morning to two Chinese
cooks of Victoria Gaol who were proved to have
"sneaked" some fish belonging to the wardens'
mess.The interests of Great Britain and Japan are
curiously identical in the Pacific, states the
London *Telegraph*, and it would be a thousand
pities if the good feeling which the present action
of Great Britain is causing among the Japanese
should not be cherished and fostered into lasting
friendship.UNDER date 20th instant an Army correspondent
reports:—"Lately there have been several cases
of plague in a house adjoining the Roman
Catholic Cathedral and at Amy-kung, Chobe,
Chiang-sha and at other places, up country, the
disease is spreading in a fearful manner." The
port may be free of the disease, but there can be
little doubt that the immediate neighbourhood
is by no means in such a fortunate sanitary
condition.Russia, writes the *London Standard*, has never
concealed the opinion that any acquisition by
Japan of Chinese territory on the mainland, and
more especially in a northernward direction,
would be a blow at her interests, against which
she would be obliged to protest; and it is to be
regretted that Japan, aware of the circumstances,
did not take it sufficiently into consideration
during the peace preliminaries.We hear that another "split in the camp" has
occurred, this time not in theatrical circles, but
in the ranks of our very own Volunteers. The
alleged "split" is said to be attributable to
certain promotions which are regarded by some
portion of the "rank and file" as very unsatis-
factory, several of whom are reported to have
sent in their resignations. We hope to be able
to sift the "wheat from the tares" in this con-
nection in the course of the next few hours.At the meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of
Commerce on the 20th instant the Chairman
said that he was reminded that the question as
to the importing of machinery for the purposes of
cotton spinning had been settled in favour of
Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., who for some
months past had machinery lying at Shanghai
awaiting permission to be landed. In con-
sequence of this, a cotton mill under British
management will be erected at Shanghai imme-
diately.At the Police Court to-day, before Mr. H. E.
Wedehouse, Daniel Sullivan, Joseph Graber and
Marlin Dahl, seamen of the British ship *Glen-
ville*, were charged at the instance of Thomas
B. Pritchard, master of the *Glenville*, for being
drunk and disorderly and assaulting an appren-
tice named Edwin Evans and using threatening
and abusive language to complainant on the
26th inst. on board the said vessel. The first
two defendants were sent to goal for one month
each, while the third defendant went "aloft" for
14 days.It is reported that the Admiralty authorities are
now in harmony with the more serious of the
proposals which the Hockins Committee has
made in connection with the terms and conditions
of service for naval officers. Should the proposals
of the Committee be carried out, there will be at
once an increase of the lieutenants, the captains,
and the commanders. The insufficiency of the
supply of lieutenants has long been a matter
of serious anxiety to the Admiralty, and this
Committee advise that the lieutenants' list should
be increased by a hundred and fifty officers.
They, however, advise an increase of only
50 in connection with the other ranks. In
addition to the 150 lieutenants it is advised
that lieutenants of the Royal Naval Reserve
should be entered temporarily, so as to relieve
the present severe strain on the authorities.The returns of the number of visitors to the City
Hall Museum for the week ended May 26th
are—Europeans, 134; Chinese, 1,419; total
1,553.An Emergency meeting of Zetland Lodge, No.
525, E.C., will be held in the Freemasons' Hall,
Zetland Street, on Wednesday, the 29th inst.,
at 8.30 for 9 o'clock precisely. Visiting brethren
are cordially invited.The German Army (except the Bavarian Corps)
at present numbers 299 generals, of whom eight
are field-marshal or general-colonels, 330
colonels, 345 colonel-lieutenants, 1,467 majors,
3,875 captains, 3,450 first-class lieutenants,
and 6,571 second-class lieutenants. Under this
number are comprised all three arms, that is to
say—infantry, cavalry, and artillery.The Hav-Agency published the following on
the 25th ultimo from St. Petersburg:—"In
Government circles it is affirmed that Russia is
opposed to the annexation by Japan of the Liaotung
Peninsula solely because it is compromising
her interests and her security in the Far
East, and not at all owing to any pretended
secret treaty of alliance with China, as certain
American newspapers have announced."

REBELLION IN NORTH CHINA.

The *China Gazette* (21st May) learns from its
Tientsin correspondent that anarchy reigns
supreme at Shan-hai-kwan and in the camps on
the Liro river. The soldiers have passed out
of the control of their officers, who have openly
reviled as cowards and incapable. Twenty-
thousand Hunan troops have been sent by Liu
Kun-yih to suppress the seditious outbreak, but
the new comers, by joining their companions in
army, only add fuel to the fire. So serious is the
situation

to the Committee to deal with as they found best, and from this moment the library ceased to be private and became a public trust. One of the results has been that the number of volumes has been doubled. Hongkong is the only colony of any size without such an institution. Penang, for instance, has a magnificent library, which began on a smaller scale than this of ours. The English in Macao as long ago as 1868 started a library with 4,000 books. If time were allowed me, I could prove to the hilt, over and over again with deadly thrusts, how much our small collection is appreciated. Well, this idea of a Public Library is a section of the "Old Volume" stock, but it is like a colossus and it feels strong enough to stand on its own feet. It is a colossus, and with so it is so. I would fain speak longer and stronger on this point, but to-night it can only be cited as part of the history we are relating. Of course it has its opponents; but what has not? There are even misguided individuals who hint that the system of government in Hongkong is capable of improvement! (laughter.) We claim no ideal perfection for our scheme; but we do most strongly and solemnly assert that no objection yet urged against it weighs more than a feather in the balance against the great, the undoubted, and the far-reaching benefits such a library would confer. I had but little said in this connection. I had but little said; every little township almost in Australia and North America has its library, and it is impossible that a colony like this, on the border of a vast Empire like China, enter into closer relations than ever with Japan, should allow itself to be pointed at as doing less for the intellectual needs of the people than any other part of the Queen's great dominions. But this is trenching upon Dr. Cantile's prerogative of prophecy, so I will hark back to my own proper sphere. We confidently hope that the valuable nucleus of a library in the City Hall, which, however, has no modern books, will form in some way part of the Hongkong Public Library. There is one other matter which I allude to, my friends, in regard to the "Old Volume," which I have fought for it, and I have been defeated; but the battle will assuredly be won, and that quickly. I mean the question of lady membership. I really think the society has by its own act virtually settled the matter already. The members flocked to hear a lady address us. Mrs. Bishop charmed us with her lecture, as she has done with her books; and we elected her with acclamation as our first Honorary Member. Surely if women are good enough to occupy our platform, wise enough to merit our honorary membership, it must be a very crooked system of logic which from such premises deduces the conclusion that they are perhaps unwelcome, but undesirable, members of the society. So I leave the English history and ask if the names of Elizabeth and Victoria are, or ever will be, associated with the decline of the empire. From cradle to throne woman proved herself competent, and it does seem, if I may be allowed to use the word, it does seem a little foolish to say she is not fit to become an "Old Volume" (Heart! Heart!) Personally, my reading of history has made me believe in one-horse shows. Ramesses ran a one-horse venture in Egypt, and the country prospered as it never did before or since. Alexander was a one-horse commander, but Greece did not suffer. One-horse Romulus founded Rome, and it isn't dead yet. Julius Caesar, Gaius Octavius, Augustus, the Emperor Nero, Gaius Bismarck, William the Conqueror, the Black Prince, Elizabeth, Cecil Rhodes—why, you can't find any history at all to be proud of that hasn't been one-horsed. Sir W. Robinson himself put his foot on the stroke the other day and it collapsed. Finally, the most momentous event in the history of mankind was a one-horse affair. It was Adam! (Applause.) I have heard it said disparagingly that this society is managed by a few individuals; it has even irreverently been described as a one-horse show. Well, it is not quite that, but it has been very neatly; and I never knew anything succeed that was not run by one man. Why do some of these objectors come and try some handling? Let them go into harness, and they will soon see that there is hard work to be done; much of it fair against the collier; and one-horse, our first

president, has put his strength against the collar in a manner that ought to be the admiration of all, instead of the envy of a few. Be sure of this, that neither the Odd Volumes, nor any other society, nor any commercial or political association, has ever won its struggle against opposition, unless it has put its strength through a collar that keeps to the track instead of kicking over the traces. It is collar work, steady and continued; collar work that must be done when fatigue calls for rest, or pleasure leads to recreation; and it is none the less hard work in that its object is to give pleasure to others. We shall in a few months lose our best horses, should be the one object of the society, to find, catch, and train a Mustang of the same mettle and promptness, and then to make a collar that will never discomfit another such animal, so that you may victoriously lighten the load of the other draught horses by a little forethought. It has frequently happened, that the council have had the unnecessary ones thrown upon them, or devising themes for debate, or of looking up members who, having promised, have failed to produce a paper. If the society is to run smoothly in the future, it is essential that a programme be prepared before the beginning of each session, and that all members, and especially our particular have not been as successful as we hoped. The younger members have not come prominently forward as speakers, or readers of papers; and we especially desired to assist them in the art of debate. 'Something' is this perhaps due to the cold winds I spoke of, but as they are all over now, and only balmish zephyrs can blow, there need be no more hesitation on that score. His Excellency has said that the motto of the society is *Self-culture*, and that note is self-culture. It is after all not a slovenly way of learning to sit and listen to what others have done; the real self-culture means self-ideal, self-restraint, and continuous effort. There is no prize withheld from those who thus cultivate themselves, and the very process is itself a joy, and a delight that is the best of all acquisitions. The 'Odd Volumes' offer you the means for some of this culture; but the actual work is your own, and the converse is equally personal. This is my only word of warning. It is the only possible cloud in the serene sky of progress; and whether that cloud dissipate into invariable vapour, or condense into a storm-cloud to burst in havoc rests in the hands of the young members. Self-culture is the only way of safety. And now, farewell to one and all, from our august President to the youngest 'Odd Volume,' I trust you will all make me connection with your society a pleasant one. I leave you with regret. My life has been a wandering one. I have never since my boyhood lived so long in one place as in Hongkong, and in five years I have come to like it better than any spot upon which my lot has been cast. Not the least pleasant of the memories I am storing up for future comfort will be that of this afternoon. Farewell (I don't appear to have said that yet). I am, dear Sir, Yours sincerely, H. S. Sherrif. He did not know what was about to have greater weight than the mention of the fact that Mr. Sherrif was already member of a Distinguished Service society.

BORNEO NEWS.

The British North Borneo Herald of the 1st inst. calls attention in its opening article to the necessity of taking steps, as speedily as possible, for the efficient conservation of the present forests, and for the re-forestation of districts or portions of districts stripped of timber. It points to the willful waste already noticeable in the neighbourhood of Sandakan and suggests the invencement of all timber exported, to prevent the cutting of undesired timber, and the loss of credit and business thereby. It follows the suggestion to foreign markets of users and timber.

There is a reference in a subsequent article, extracted from the *London and China Express*, to the prospects of Borneo in the immediate future. Mr. Strutt, the Chairman of the New London Borneo Company, who had visited the country and who was therefore qualified to speak as an authority on the subject, having reported most favourably to his shareholders, not merely as to their particular property and the future of tobacco, but also as to the possibilities of coffee, hemp, coconuts, sugar, pepper, gambier, and arrowroot. His report is published in full in the issue of our contemporary now under notice.

A local parcel most has been started in Borneo. A steadily increasing stream of Japanese labourers is pouring into the country, and the Japanese Government, having long sanctioned emigration to Bill soon run from Yab-lam to Borneo direct. Thirty-two Japanese had arrived by the *Mamon* last month and five of them had brought their wives with them. Tamil settlers are also on the way to Borneo, so that the labour question, once so troublesome, seems to be in a fair way to be satisfactorily settled. The Acting Principal Medical Officer has reported very favourably as to the health of the Japanese labourers employed on the estates, mainly in "clearing" in the jungle, by no means the most healthful occupation in the island. We compare them very favourably with the Chinese.

The late Governor (Mr. Creight) was unable, because of the unsatisfactory state of his health, to accept an invitation to attend a public dinner agreed to be tendered in him by a public meeting of the residents of Sandakan on the eve of his departure.

The *Herald* contains the usual monthly reports to 15th April, extracts from a rough diary kept by Governor C each during a trip early in April to Siam, Tytkalo and Tawao, and the programme of the North Borneo Turf Club Meeting to be held on Monday, the 3rd of June—seven events. A four-page supplement is added by the B.N.B. branch of the Asiatic Society, containing a valuable paper signed "D" giving all the information available as to the old-time Chinese settlements in Borneo. As an historical record D's contribution is as valuable as it is unquestionably interesting and unique.

ABOUT FORMOSA.

The following telegram has been received from the Governor of Hongkong, dated April 23rd:—"Bubonic plague, believed epidemic at Macao and Hoho. Immigration stopped. It is to be hoped, says L. and C. Express, that with the aid of vaccination no deadly loss will be sustained."

it is, for the Government of that empire to take the initiative, which international conventions have left open to it. So far as India is

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